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PERNICIOUS HABIT.

In spite of the efforts of the tobacco trust to defeat it, Governor LaFollet of Wisconsin has signed the anti-cigarette bill in that state and it will become a law on July 1. After that date it will be a misdemeanor, punishable by heavy fines and imprisonment in that state to sell or even to give them away. Why should not Oregon follow Wisconsin's example?

The law does not provide punishment for cigarette smoking, but that is unnecessary. If the law is rigorously enforced that will make it impossible for anybody in Wisconsin to procure cigarettes to smoke. For this wise and necessary legislation and action the legislature and governor of Wisconsin deserve the thanks of the nation. We shall now see if it is possible to stamp out this cigarette disease and stop the greed and heartless tobacco trust's degradation of the nation's youth. If it can be done in Wisconsin it can be done in Oregon and all other states, and it will be done.

As was to have been expected, the regulation canting clamor about "interference with personal liberty" is being made by the cigarette slaves and by the conscienceless creatures who fatten on their slavery. Let nobody be deceived by this cry. Of course the prohibition of cigarettes is an interference with personal liberty to some extent. But so is the law against opium smoking in Astoria, which is not enforced. So is the law prohibiting the indiscriminate sale of cocaine. So is the law against burglary, the law against murder.

The contract by which an individual is made a member of civilized society is a contract under which, in protection for life and property he receives and the benefits he enjoys through peaceful association with his fellow men, he agrees to refrain from any individual action which, in the judgment of the majority, is injurious to society as a whole. Society has the right to restrain the personal liberty of any of its members so far as personal liberty is a menace to society. There is no greater menace to society today than the cigarette. Because of its cheapness, its mildness, the insidious slowness of its poisonous action, it easily takes possession of young lads and before they realize it has shackled them firmly in its fetters. Once fastened securely, the cigarette slavery is almost as impossible to shake off as the slavery of cocaine or opium, and it is deadly as those others are, if it does not kill so quickly.

Nobody will venture to deny that society has the right to make laws protecting its members against deadly poisons. What then does it matter whether the poison be swift or slow? If a druggist sell cocaine he is severely punished. Why should not the man be as severely punished who sells cigarettes? Cocaine causes insanity in about two years and death in five years at the most. Cigarettes take a longer time, but they cause insanity and death just as inevitably. What is the difference? Many of the weak, puny young men of Astoria, listless apparently and without ambition, are slaves to the cigarette habit. They are unfit to perform work in any avocation, and in many cities merchants will not employ a young man who smokes cigarettes. Dullness, stupidity, inaction and inattentiveness is the direct result of cigarette smoking.

MUNICIPAL EXTRAVAGANCE.

Judging from the bills presented to the common council at every meeting, there is not the same care and forethought exercised in the transaction of the business of the city, and merchants and others engaged in any line of business. There are many supplies purchased that are not actually necessary, and if a merchant were trying to economize in order to make both ends meet many of these little "extras" would not be purchased, but with the city it seems to be different. If anything is needed, or is thought would come in handy some time, the chairman of the committee authorizes its purchase, whereas, were it for himself he would consider whether the state of his finances would warrant the purchase at that time.

Of course, every man employed by the city wants the best of everything

to work with, and frequently the chairman of a committee does not really know whether it is actually necessary or not, but relies upon the statements made and the supplies are ordered. It is estimated by those in a position to know or who have examined into the matter, that the common council could have saved enough last year had they been economical to offset the \$12,000 which it is claimed the city will lose by reason of the closing of gambling.

No one even intimates that there is any collusion of crookedness or grafting among any person connected with the city government, but there is either a woeful lack of executive and financial ability, or carelessness in the contracting of indebtedness by not giving it that close scrutiny and personal supervision that actuates the ordinary business man in the transaction of his own business affairs. There has been a considerable amount of money expended for extras on the new city hall building, probably amounting to approximately \$1200. The excuse is made that it was not thought of at the time the architect drew the plans. If this is so, then the city should have employed an architect that knew something about drawing plans. A claim for \$66.50 was allowed at the last meeting of the council for conducting a wire conduit to the building for the purpose of connecting up the electricity apparatus. Any man of ordinary sense, and he needn't be an architect, ought to have known that a connection had to be made with the circuit, and it should have been included in the contract. A number of common place omissions have been noted and for which the city has had to pay extra, showing that the architect has neglected his education in the matter of detail.

While no one wants to impute motives of dishonesty or graft to anyone connected with the city government, but these constantly arising bills coming to the city council for payment, create talk of graft which no one can convince the public does not exist. But if any member of the council makes any inquiries, the information is forthcoming that "it was actually necessary," and with this explanation the bill is ordered paid. Hundreds of bills for supplies are presented to the council every month and paid that would not have been contracted for, had any one member of the council been the proprietor of a similar business. He would have considered that either they were wholly unnecessary, or he could not afford it, but with the city it is different. It don't come out of the pockets of the members of the city government, but out of the pockets of the taxpayers. The Astorian does not desire to make accusation of incompetency because it believes the members are doing the best they can, but these suggestions are made in the interest of economy with the view of stopping up many of the unnecessary leaks in the expenditure of public money.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Epitome of Anecdotes and Incidents With Comments by a Layman.

The only way some of the country newspapers can be noticed by the Oregonian, is to publish a squib roast on Senator Mitchell.

It is claimed that only \$12 a month is paid for horseshoeing and the remainder of the \$25 a month bill is for blacksmithing. Well, call it all blacksmithing. It don't change the amount.

Now that the strawberries are getting cheaper in Astoria, the shortcake doesn't look half so good as it did a month ago.

The girl graduate is making ready to assure an appreciative world that there is a great deal more than football and hazing in a college education.

A San Francisco tax collector has absconded with the money he collected for taxes. This is to be regretted as it will give some Clatsop county people another argument for not paying their taxes.

An astrologer says a part of New York city will be destroyed by an earthquake this year. If it is to be a visitation from an outraged providence, it will hit either Wall street or the tenderloin district, and hell will be full of New Yorkers with their legs sticking out of the windows.

A Chicago college professor has just announced that long whiskers are the roosting place of countless millions of microbes. We have always wondered what allied the populist party of Clatsop county.

It has been at last discovered that the Russian fleet is sailing north and it is surprising that no one thought of that before. St. Petersburg is to the north.

Now that the war correspondents have been unable to get up a sea battle between the Russians and Japs they are sending out those peace rumors again. But then, the correspondents must have something to do.

Paderwick strained a cord in his neck while playing the piano the other day and has had to cancel all engagements. He must have been rub-

bernecking around to see how the audience was taking it.

Up in Portland a man went to jail for 100 days rather than live with his wife. Hoch is going to be hanged for the same reason.

What is wanted is a mayor that will stop leaks instead of opening holes in the treasury.

Bathing suits when inclosed in an envelope require four cents in stamps as they usually weigh more than one ounce. People going to Seaside this summer and sending their bathing suits by mail should remember this.

SIRES AND SONS.

Ex-Secretary Daniel S. Lamont has the automobile craze and has bought a \$12,000 machine.

William Warner, the new senator from Missouri, when six years old began to earn his own living as ore boy in a Wisconsin mine.

President Castro of Venezuela is very touchy on the subject of his short stature and will never be seen in company with a tall man or woman if he can help it.

Governor Frazier of Tennessee, who will be the successor of the late United States Senator Bate, had the remarkable experience of being chosen governor from private life.

Senor de Cologan, the newly appointed Spanish minister to Washington, is the scion of an old Irish family whose heads removed into Spain after the battle of the Boyne and became naturalized Spanish subjects.

Henry Clay Frick is to leave Pittsburg, moving his family to New York. He has leased the George W. Vanderbilt mansion at Fifth avenue and Fifty-first street, New York, for a term of ten years, taking possession next fall.

James Henry (Silent) Smith, the New York millionaire, is still a bachelor, so the announcement that he proposes to spend the summer in Newport instead of going to Europe has aroused no little interest among the parents of eligible girls.

Brigadier General S. W. Fountain, U. S. A., recently promoted from a lieutenant colonelcy, is a Virginian by birth, fought on the Federal side during the civil war and was mustered out with a certificate of honorable service by President Lincoln.

Professor Simon Newcomb, the famous American astronomer, has just celebrated his seventieth birthday. He has received more degrees and similar honors abroad than any other American man of science and is the first American member of the French Institute.

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THE BUTTERMAKER.

The following rules are necessary for the manufacture of first class butter: First, cleanliness must be observed from the barn to the market; this is the foundation upon which all else rests. Second, the process of ripening cream for the churn must be understood; this step must be well learned, as a large amount of bad butter is due to over-sour or bitter cream. Third, the thermometer must be frequently used and studied. Fourth, use only the best kind of dairy salt; the common grocery kind is unfit. Fifth, learn how to work the butter; get an experienced hand to teach you the way; don't work it too much, but preserve the grain; over-worked greasy butter is an abomination. Sixth, put it in attractive packages, neatly made up and each wrapped in good parchment butter paper.—American Cultivator.

Mottled Butter.

Mottled butter is usually caused by uneven distribution of salt, says Hoard's Dairyman. It used to be the custom to work the butter twice, but most creameries now work the butter but once, although if the butter is found mottled and streaked after it has been worked once it is better to re-work it until the mottles and streaks have disappeared.

Milk That Affects Butter.

Answering the query, "Will the milk of a cow that has been milking for sixteen months and is not in calf be liable to injure the quality of the butter?" Hoard's Dairyman says: A cow that has been milking for sixteen months is very likely to give milk that will affect the butter. Milk from cows well along in the period of lactation is apt to be bitter, stringy and strong. As a rule, a cow should not be milked much over ten months, although many cows will give good milk for a much longer period. A great deal depends upon the individual cow.

Overheating Milk.

Overheating the milk will give the butter an oily appearance, thereby injuring the body of the butter unless the cream is cooled down to 80 degrees F. and held there for four to five hours before churning. In the winter milk should be separated at a temperature of 85 degrees F.; in summer, 75 to 80 degrees F.—Hoard's Dairyman.

Terrific Race With Death.

"Death was fast approaching," writes Ralph F. Fernandez of Tampa, Fla., describing his fearful race with death, "as a result of liver trouble and heart disease, which had robbed me of sleep and of all interest in life. I had tried many different doctors and several medicines, but got no benefit, until I began to use Electric Bitters. So wonderful was their effect, that in three days I felt like a new man, and today I am cured of all my troubles." Guaranteed at Chas. Rogers' drug store; price 50c.

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